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Legal & Legislative Services

Warren Mar
Town Clerk (Acting)

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Town of Aurora
100 John West Way,
Box 1000, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

February 19, 2014

Mr. Jim Leonard, Registrar
Ontario Heritage Trust
Heritage Programs and Operation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3

ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST
FEB 20 2014
RECEIVED

Dear: Mr. Leonard

**RE: Notice of Intention to Designate a Property
to be of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

**89 Mosley Street
"The Aurora Armoury"
PT TOWN HALL OR MARKET BLOCK PL 68 AURORA AS IN AU515
Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York**

Please find attached a Notice of Intention to Designate a property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended, which includes a statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest and a description of the heritage attributes of the above-noted property.

This Notice will be served in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality on February 27, 2014.

Yours sincerely,

Warren Mar
Town Clerk (Acting)

**NOTICE OF INTENTION
TO DESIGNATE A BUILDING OF
CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora intends to designate the following property as a property of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to the provisions of Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended. A brief statement of reasons is included.

89 Mosley Street

"The Aurora Armoury"

PT TOWN HALL OR MARKET BLOCK PL 68 AURORA AS IN AU515

Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York

Description of Property:

The property known municipally as 89 Mosley Street is located on the south side of Mosley Street and on the west side of Larmont Street. This property contains a one (1) storey front-end gabled wood frame building constructed circa 1874 as a military drill shed.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

The cultural heritage value of the property derives from its architectural, historical and contextual values. The property is associated historically with local militia, as well as civic and community activities in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The property has contextual value as being located within the first residential subdivision in Aurora, known as Southeast Old Aurora. The building is valued architecturally as a being representative of the utilitarian and functional design of early militia drill sheds. While the building is no longer used by local militia, it was previously one of the oldest functioning purpose-built armouries remaining in Canada. The building is a physical reminder to the larger history of the province's militia regiments and is strongly connected to the local community.

Physical Design Value:

The Aurora Armoury is a functional one (1) storey frame structure with a low-pitched front-end gable. The building was originally constructed in 1874 sheathed with vertical wood board and batten and renovated in 1942, introducing horizontal wood bevel siding. The building was renovated again in 1983 including the addition of aluminum siding and the covering-up of windows on the west elevation. The building was designed according to the standard plan prepared by the Department of the Militia and Defence in 1867, most likely by Walter Moberly, an engineer associated with the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The functional and utilitarian design of this building is an excellent example of early purpose-built militia drill sheds, expressive of rural building practices and construction methods.

Historical /Associative Value:

The Aurora Armoury is historically associated with the 12th Battalion of Infantry or York Rangers, for whom the building was originally constructed. The building is associated with citizen soldiers of the local community as well as Edward Blake, former prime minister of Ontario, who delivered his famous "Aurora Speech" on the property on October 3, 1874 emphasizing the nationalist movement.

Contextual Value:

Located on the south side of Mosley Street and on the west side of Larmont Street, on the north-east corner of Town Park, the property is located within the first residential subdivision in Aurora, known as Southeast Old Aurora. Located within this historic residential neighbourhood as well as the adjacent Town Park, the building has become an integral part of the local community. Its public use throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries is strongly associated to its key location in this historic residential neighbourhood.

Description of Heritage Attributes:

Reasons for designation include the following heritage attributes and apply to all elevations and the roof; including all facades, entrances, window openings, chimneys, and trim, together with construction materials, their related building techniques and landscape features.

Exterior Elements:

- Overall rectangular plan, one-storey building form;
- Low-pitched front-end gable-roof;
- All window openings;
- East elevation brick chimney;
- Original truss framing; and
- Original door openings and entrances.

DETAILED REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION CAN BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE UNDERSIGNED.

Any person may, before the end of the day on March 28, 2014, send by registered mail or deliver to the Town Clerk, Notice of Objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If a Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the Town of Aurora will refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and a report.

Further information respecting the proposed designation(s) is available from the Legal & Legislative Services upon request.

DATED at Aurora this 18th day of February, 2014.

Warren Mar, Director, Legal Services/Town Solicitor, Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Box 1000, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1